AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

- 1-11. (Canceled)
- 12. (Previously Presented) A method for potentiating an antiaging action of a composition containing ascorbic acid 2-glucoside, the method comprising the step of incorporating at least one purine nucleic acid-related substance selected from the group (B) consisting of adenosine 2'-monophosphate, adenosine 3'-monophosphate, and salts thereof into said composition.
 - 13-14. (Canceled)
- 15. (Original) A potentiating method according to Claim 12, wherein the component (B) is adenosine 5'-monophosphate or a salt thereof.
 - 16. (Canceled)
- 17. (Previously Presented) A potentiating method according to Claim 12, wherein the component (B) is present in a proportion of 0.5 to 1000 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of ascorbic acid 2-glucoside.
- 18. (Previously Presented) A method for retarding skin-aging comprising the step of applying to the skin ascorbic acid 2-glucoside and at least one purine nucleic acid-related substance selected from the group consisting of adenosine 2'-monophosphate, adenosine 3'-monophosphate, and salts thereof.
 - 19-26. (Canceled)

- 27. (Previously Presented) A method for potentiating a skin pigmentation alleviating action of a composition containing ascorbic acid 2-glucoside, the method comprising the step of incorporating at least one purine nucleic acid-related substance selected from the group (B) consisting of adenosine 2'-monophosphate, adenosine 3'-monophosphate, adenosine 5'-monophosphate, and salts thereof into said composition.
- 28. (Previously Presented) A potentiating method according to Claim 27, wherein the component (B) is adenosine 5'-monophosphate or a salt thereof.
- 29. (Previously Presented) A potentiating method according to Claim 27, wherein the component (B) is present in a proportion of 0.5 to 1000 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of ascorbic acid 2-glucoside.
- 30. (Previously Presented) A method for alleviating skin pigmentation comprising the step of applying to pigmented skin ascorbic acid 2-glucoside and at least one purine nucleic acid-related substance selected from the group consisting of adenosine 2'-monophosphate, adenosine 3'-monophosphate, and salts thereof.
- 31. (New) A potentiating method according to Claim 12, wherein the composition contains ascorbic acid 2-glucoside in a proportion of 0.05 to 10% (w/w) based on the total amount of the composition.
- 32. (New) A potentiating method according to Claim 12, wherein the component (B) is incorporated in a proportion of 0.05 to 10% (w/w) based on the total amount of the composition.
- 33. (New) A potentiating method according to Claim 12, wherein the composition is a cosmetic, or an externally-applied medical or quasi-medical drug.

- 34. (New) A potentiating method according to Claim 12, wherein the component (B) synergistically potentiates the antiaging effect of ascorbic acid 2-glucoside.
- 35. (New) A method for retarding skin aging according to Claim 18, wherein a composition comprising:
 - (A) ascorbic acid 2-glucoside; and
 - (B) at least one purine nucleic acid-related substance selected from the group adenosine 2'-monophosphate, adenosine 3'-monophosphate,

adenosine 5'-monophosphate, and salts thereof is applied to the skin.

- 36. (New) A method for retarding skin aging according to Claim 18, wherein the at least one purine nucleic acid-related substance is adenosine 5'-monophosphate or a salt thereof.
- 37. (New) A method for retarding skin aging according to Claim 35, wherein the component (A) is present in a proportion of 0.05% to 10% (w/w) based on the total amount of the composition.
- 38. (New) A method for retarding skin aging according to Claim 35, wherein the component (B) is present in a proportion of 0.05% to 10% (w/w) based on the total amount of the composition.
- 39. (New) A method for retarding skin aging according to Claim 35, wherein the component (B) is present in a proportion of 0.5 parts to 1000 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of the component (A).
- 40. (New) A method for retarding skin aging according to Claim 35, wherein the composition is a cosmetic, or an externally-applied medical or quasi-medical drug.

- 41. (New) A method for retarding skin aging according to Claim 18, wherein the purine nucleic acid-related substance synergistically potentiates the antiaging effect of ascorbic acid 2-glucoside.
- 42. (New) A potentiating method according to Claim 27, wherein the composition contains ascorbic acid 2-glucoside in a proportion of 0.05% to 10% (w/w) based on the total amount of the composition.
- 43. (New) A potentiating method according to Claim 27, wherein the component (B) is incorporated in a proportion of 0.05% to 10% (w/w) based on the total amount of the composition.
- 44. (New) A potentiating method according to Claim 27, wherein the composition is a cosmetic, or an externally-applied medical or quasi-medical drug.
- 45. (New) A potentiating method according to Claim 27, wherein the component (B) synergistically potentiates the pigmentation alleviating effect of ascorbic acid 2-glucoside.
- 46. (New) A method for alleviating skin pigmentation according to Claim 30, wherein a composition comprising:
 - (A) ascorbic acid 2-glucoside; and
 - (B) at least one purine nucleic acid-related substance selected from the group adenosine 2'-monophosphate, adenosine 3'-monophosphate,

adenosine 5'-monophosphate, and salts thereof is applied to the skin.

47. (New) A method for alleviating skin pigmentation according to Claim 30, wherein the at least one purine nucleic acid-related substance is adenosine 5'-monophosphate or a salt thereof.

- 48. (New) A method for alleviating skin pigmentation according to Claim 46, wherein the composition comprises the component (A) in a proportion of 0.05% to 10% (w/w) based on the total amount of the composition.
- 49. (New) A method for alleviating skin pigmentation according to Claim 46, wherein the composition comprises the component (B) in a proportion of 0.05% to 10% (w/w) based on the total amount of the composition.
- 50. (New) A method for alleviating skin pigmentation according to Claim 46, wherein the component (B) is present in a proportion of 0.5 parts to 1000 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of component (A).
- 51. (New) A method for alleviating skin pigmentation according to Claim 46, wherein the composition is a cosmetic, or an externally-applied medical or quasi-medical drug.
- 52. (New) A method for alleviating skin pigmentation according to claim 30, wherein the purine nucleic acid-related substance synergistically potentiates the pigmentation alleviating effect of ascorbic acid 2-glucoside.